



Safety and Security During the Holidays

Parking Lots

The mere act of parking your car in a busy shopping mall parking lot can be a high-risk adventure. To protect yourself:

- Go slow. Drive defensively and be patient. Watch for illuminated taillights to spot cars pulling out.
- Improper backing ranks as the top cause of parking lot mishaps.



Parking Lots

- Allow sufficient space when you pull into the spot.
- Be prepared to yield the right of way.
- Always assume the pedestrian does not see you. Without direct eye contact, you can't be sure. Be extra careful at night.
- Drive no faster than 5 to 10 miles an hour in parking areas, even if they are relatively empty. Use your turn signals.

Shopping Safety

- Try to park in well-lighted areas as close to the front door of the store as possible.
- ~~If you are worried about~~ Avoid shopping alone walking to your car alone, ask a security guard or a store employee to accompany you.
- Have your keys in your hand before you exit the store.



Shopping Safety

- Body language is important. Look confident and aware of your surroundings, as opposed to preoccupied with your head down and overloaded with packages.



- Glance under the car when you are approaching it. Check the back seat before you enter.
- Lock the doors immediately

Shopping Safety/ATMs

- Be particularly aware of your surroundings while using an ATM.



- If you are accosted by a robber, scream.
- On icy surfaces, wear shoes with good traction and look where you're going.

Safety Inside The Store

- Do not place packages on the steps or balance them on the handrails.
- Don't take carts, strollers, or wheelchairs on an escalator.
- Never allow children to ride an escalator unattended. Do not let them sit or drag their feet along an escalator's side.
- Hold on to the handrail.
- If your hands are full, take the elevator.

Safety Inside The Store

- There are about 25,000 trips to emergency rooms each year due to falls from shopping carts, most of them involving young children.
- Shop where they have supervised play areas.
- Have your child wear a safety belt in the cart.
- Don't let kids hang on the carts.
- Carts with infant carriers are more likely to tip over due to a high center of gravity.

The background of the image is a repeating pattern of pink poinsettia flowers with green leaves on a light cream-colored background. The text is centered over this pattern.

***Stay Safe This Holiday
Season—Stay Alert
and Focused!***